

governments and the private sector to map where broadband is available in rural areas, and conduct outreach to areas where it is still unavailable.

I and my colleague, Senator SALAZAR, have always shared a concern for our rural citizens. I am proud to work with my neighbor to the west on this issue, and I look forward to working with my other colleagues on the Senate Agriculture Committee as we begin work on the 2007 farm bill.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Mr. KOHL. Madam President, generation by generation, the face of America is always changing. In the next quarter of a century, the laugh lines of that face will deepen as the number of older Americans explodes. Today, those over 65 account for 12 percent of our population; in 2030, they will account for 20 percent. Academic experts, policy wonks, economists, and health care providers are conjecturing broadly about how this demographic wave will affect our society. As chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I am listening carefully.

It is the charge of the Aging Committee to plan accordingly for the challenges facing our seniors tomorrow and to tackle the problems confronting them today. Older American Month, which occurs each May, gives us an opportunity to highlight these issues but let me assure you that it is impossible to relegate senior issues into one neat category, and soon it will be impossible to confine our attention to them to just 1 month.

Nearly every issue dealt with by Congress affects older Americans, or is affected by them, in a unique way. From emergency preparedness to broadcast technology, from the size of the labor force to regulation of corporate marketing practices, these issues are worthy of our attention from the older person's perspective. Then there are, of course, the more obvious challenges ahead of us, such as preserving Social Security, strengthening Medicare, and improving long-term care.

In the last 5 months alone, the Aging Committee has held hearings on a myriad of matters that are of vital concern to seniors. We have examined health care coverage for America's poorest seniors under Medicare Part D's low-income subsidy. We heard from the Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve about the impact that millions of retiring baby boomers will have on our Nation's economy, and we learned about how best to retain and cater to the needs of older workers.

We have deliberated on the progress made by the nursing home industry over the last 20 years, as well as what currently needs to be done about the most neglectful, decrepit homes. Our investigative unit has shone a bright light on the shameful, deceptive sales tactics employed by certain providers of private Medicare Advantage plans.

We have put forth compelling evidence for the continuation of

SeniorCare, Wisconsin's highly efficient drug coverage program, in spite of the administration's desire to terminate it. And, I couldn't be more pleased to say, we worked with the rest of the Wisconsin delegation and in collaboration with Governor Jim Doyle to find a legislative fix to save SeniorCare, extending the program through December 31, 2009.

As demonstrated by the work I have described, it is easy to see that protecting seniors—whether from fraud, poverty, or mistreatment—is a priority for the Aging Committee. However, it is also our priority to enable them. Though older Americans are often considered to be a vulnerable segment of the population, in many ways senior citizens strengthen our society. America's seniors have had decades to master skills and garner accomplishments, often rendering them our best leaders and innovators. A lot of them are out in the forefront of professional fields, staying active within community and family life in various capacities, and leading by example.

The aging of America will affect every part of our society, and it will touch every family in decades to come. We reap the benefits of the continued contributions of older Americans, and in return they deserve the best quality of life our Nation can afford them.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING MARK STEPHENS

• Mr. AKAKA. Madam President, as chairman of the Federal Workforce Subcommittee, I would like to recognize a milestone in the career of a dedicated and committed public servant. Mark Stephens, an attorney with the Postal Regulatory Commission's Office of General Counsel, is retiring after a 33-year career. He joined the former Postal Rate Commission in 1974, and participated in the analysis and review of numerous postal rate, classification, and complaint cases.

Mark proudly notes that he started his Federal service career as a letter carrier for the old Post Office Department where he worked for three months during the summer of 1968. During his long tenure with the Commission, Mark also served in the Office of Consumer Advocate.

Mark's colleagues point to his professionalism, analytical and writing ability, and character as the embodiment of the finest qualities of public service. His insights and thoughtful counsel made a substantial contribution to the Commission's successful fulfillment of its statutory responsibilities. Mark has been a valued colleague to those at the Commission and his retirement will leave a void that will be difficult to fill.

Upon leaving the Postal Regulatory Commission, Mark intends to spend more time with his family, but will likely continue to monitor the progress

of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 which significantly enhanced the authority of the PRC. Mark Stephens is a public servant who made a difference, and I wish him much future success.●

CONGRATULATING DETECTIVE STEVEN SILFIES

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I congratulate Detective Steven Silfies of Hopkinsville, KY. Detective Silfies was recently recognized as the "2006 Trooper of the Year" by the Kentucky State Police.

Detective Silfies is a 4-year veteran of the Kentucky State Police Force. He is assigned to Kentucky State Police Post 2 located in Madisonville, KY. Prior to joining the Kentucky State Police, Detective Silfies served more than two decades in the U.S. Army. This includes tours in both Afghanistan and Iraq. He also currently serves as de-facto liaison officer with personnel at Fort Campbell.

Detective Silfies truly exemplifies what it means to serve and protect the citizens of Kentucky. During the past year, Detective Silfies has played an integral role in the investigation of six murders. His devotion has led to two arrests in those investigations. Silfies also has played a prominent role in the solving of several cold cases. These include an arrest in a 27-year-old case of an out-of-State resident. Detective Silfies took a leading role in another cold case involving an out-of-State resident. This was a 13-year-old case in which Silfies uncovered overlooked evidence.

I congratulate Detective Silfies on this achievement. To be singled out among such a dedicated police force is truly an honor. He is an inspiration to the citizens of Kentucky and to dedicated police everywhere. I look forward to seeing all that he will accomplish in the future.

WOMEN'S TENNIS 2007 CHAMPIONS

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, today I congratulate the Georgia Tech women's tennis team for winning the 2007 Women's NCAA Tennis Championship in Athens, GA.

The Georgia Tech women's tennis program celebrated its first NCAA title on May 22, 2007, with a 4-2 win over UCLA. The Yellow Jackets' win over UCLA marked its 21st straight match win, and they finished the season at 29-4.

I congratulate team members Amanda Craddock, Kristen Fowler, Whitney McCray, Amanda McDowell, Kirsti Miller, Tarryn Rudman, Alison Silverio, and Christy Striplin for their hard work and achievement. Additionally, I congratulate Alison Silverio on being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. I further extend my thanks to the players' families and fans for continually supporting these outstanding young women throughout a long but

exciting tennis season. The team's success, undoubtedly, would not have been possible without the leadership of head coach Bryan Shelton, assistant coach Mariel Verban, and volunteer assistant coach Robin Stephenson.

Congratulations again to all of these young women for their accomplishment.●

MEN'S TENNIS 2007 CHAMPIONS

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I wish to congratulate the men's tennis team from my alma mater, the University of Georgia, for winning the 2007 NCAA Men's Tennis Championship in Athens, GA.

The Bulldogs defeated the University of Illinois 4 to 0 in the final round of play to capture their fifth men's NCAA national championship in front of a sold out crowd in Athens, leading to the school's 24th national title overall. The team entered the season ranked No. 1 in the country, and completed the season with a perfect 32 to 0 record, making them only the fifth men's tennis team in history to go undefeated.

As an alumnus of this great university, I am extremely proud and would like to congratulate team members Brad Benedict, Luis Flores, Travis Helgeson, Alex Hill, Jamie Hunt, Chris Motes, Nate Schnugg, Joshua Varela, Christian Vitulli, and Tri-Captains Ricardo Gonzalez, John Isner, and Matic Omerzel for their hard work and accomplishments. Additionally, I would like to congratulate Matic Omerzel on being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Undoubtedly, the team's successes would not have been possible without the guidance and encouragement from legendary head coach Manuel Diaz, assistant coach Will Glenn and graduate assistant athletic trainer Michael Neumann. This title is the third for the university under Coach Diaz, making him the only active coach with multiple NCAA championships.

Again, congratulations to the Georgia Bulldogs for their achievement.●

HONORING NORM MALENG

● Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, today I celebrate the life and service of Norm Maleng, a deeply respected leader in my home State of Washington who served as King County Prosecutor since 1978.

Seattle, King County, and in fact the entire Pacific Northwest, lost one of our finest statesmen ever with his passing. Norm was known by everyone for his fairness and honesty. He was a thoughtful leader who helped guide our community through difficult times. Over the years, our community was rattled by the Wah Mee Massacre, the murder of the Goldmark family, and the Green River Cases. We all breathed easier knowing that Norm Maleng would handle the cases and that justice would be served.

To me, Norm Maleng was always the King County prosecutor. Norm held the

position so long, and did his job so well, that it is hard for me to remember anyone else who held the job before him.

For all of us in public office, Norm was an icon. For me, despite our party differences, he was always a voice of reason and even-handedness. For everyone in King County, we knew that whatever issue came before him, he would handle it with integrity.

As an elected official, Norm Maleng was the best role model for all of us. He treated everyone equally and fairly. He approached every case and every challenge with wisdom and dignity. His voice will be missed. For me, he will always be the King County prosecutor.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:45 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Chiappardi, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2316. An act to provide more rigorous requirements with respect to disclosure and enforcement of lobbying laws and regulations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2317. An act to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require registered lobbyists to file quarterly reports on contributions bundled for certain recipients, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following joint resolution was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 14. Joint resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Attorney General Alberto Gonzales no longer holds the confidence of the Senate and of the American people.

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following measure was ordered held at the desk by unanimous consent:

S. 1532. An act to extend tax relief to the residents and businesses of an area with respect to which a major disaster has been declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and

Emergency Assistance Act (FEMA-1699-DR) by reason of severe storms and tornados beginning on May 4, 2007, and determined by the President to warrant individual or individual and public assistance from the Federal Government under such Act.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2316. An act to provide more rigorous requirements with respect to disclosure and enforcement of lobbying laws and regulations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2317. An act to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require registered lobbyists to file quarterly reports on contributions bundled for certain recipients, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1530. A bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to protect consumers from inadequate disclosures and certain abusive practices in rent-to-own transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. ALLARD, and Mr. SALAZAR):

S. 1531. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives and extend existing incentives for the production and use of renewable energy resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 1532. A bill to extend tax relief to the residents and businesses of an area with respect to which a major disaster has been declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (FEMA-1699-DR) by reason of severe storms and tornados beginning on May 4, 2007, and determined by the President to warrant individual or individual and public assistance from the Federal Government under such Act; ordered held at the desk.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 1533. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain coins to be acquired by individual retirement accounts and other individually directed pension plan accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. BAYH):

S. 1534. A bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its human rights record and to support a transition to democracy in Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1535. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Foreign Trade Zones Act to simplify the tax and eliminate the drawback fee on certain distilled spirits used in nonbeverage products manufactured in a United States foreign trade zone for domestic use and export; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1536. A bill for the relief of Jose Alberto Martinez Moreno, Micaela Lopez Martinez, and Adilene Martinez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.